Creation of Disinvestment Fund

3565. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether in its first report in February, 1997 Disinvestment Commission had recommended that the proceeds of disinvestment be placed separately in a Disinvestment Fund (DF) and not to be fungible with other Government receipts;

(b) whether the Commission has also pointed out that the disinvestment should not be used as a short term budgetary measure intended mainly to raise the resources to cover fiscal deficit; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government to form Disinvestment Fund and to dispel the apprehension of the Commision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) The Government have decided in principle to create a Disinvestment Fund.

Share of SSI in exports

3566. DR. B.B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the small scale industry's share in export as compared to the organised sector for the last three years;

(b) the extent of its contribution to the employment generation and creation of wealth in the country; and

(c) the long term strategy proposed to be formulated for the development and growth of the Small Scale Industries during the Ninth Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) Exports from small scale sector and its share during the last three years in India's total exports are as follows:

Sl. No.	Year	Total Exports of the Country (Rs. in crores)	Exports from Small Scale Sector (Rs. in crores)	% share in India's total exports
1.	1994-95	82674.11	29068.15	35.15
2.	1995-96	106464.86	36470.22	34.25
3.	1996-97	117524.98	39248.54	33.40

(b) It is estimated that the small scale sector is providing gainful employment to about 167 lakh persons. The contribution of the Small Scale Sector to the total production of manufacturing sector in India is about 42%.

(c) The 9th Plan approach paper envisages greater focus on improved credit flow, more incentives and support to facilitate their growth and employment generation, technological development and upgradation, improving export capabilities of this sector, enlargement of the scope of the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana for creating new self-employment opportunities for the development and growth of the Small Scale Industires.

Revival of market

3567. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news appearing the 'Hindu' dated the 24th June, 1998 under the caption "Industry seeks steps to revive market", and

(b) if so, Government's reaction to the suggestions made by the industry?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) and

(b) The capital market is driven by the expectations about the performance of the corporate sector, the economy in